

75,000 LIVES LOST!!

THE MOST STUPENDOUS CATASTROPHE
OF MODERN TIMES.

Volcanic Eruption in Java.

BATAVIA, Aug. 29.
Volcanic eruptions in Java began on the Island of Krakatoa, in the Straits of Sunda, 100 miles from the coast of Java, Saturday night. By Sunday the disturbances had extended beneath the waters of the strait causing great waves and a rise of 20 degrees in the temperature of the sea. The disturbance was felt 500 miles away. By noon Maha Meru, the largest volcano in Java, was in violent eruption, and shortly the Gunung crater, which is the largest in the world, and fifteen of the other forty-five craters in Java were either in active eruption or seriously threatened. At dusk Mount Gunung sent out streams of white and sulphurous mud, with an explosion of cinders and stones, which carried

DEATH TO ALL ABOUT THE VALLEY.
The clouds were charged with electricity, and fifteen waterspouts were seen simultaneously. The inhabitants fled terror-stricken. Hundreds were buried under the houses or crushed by the masses of rocks and mud. Gunung Tengor, which has not had an eruption since 1930, shot out great red hot boulders which crushed through the huts of the Chinese fishermen. Fissures and yawning chasms appeared. Fertile valleys covered with flourishing plantations, were now but mud and stone, and lava covered the fields with destruction. There will probably not be a single crop in Java saved. At the entrance to Batavia was a large group of houses, occupied by Chinamen. This portion was entirely swept away. Of 25,000 Chinese, about 5,000 were saved. Of 3,500 Europeans, 800 perished. At Anjer the European and American quarter was first overwhelmed by rocks, mud, and lava, then the waters came up and swallowed the ruins, leaving nothing, and causing a loss of 200 lives. Bantam, once a prosperous native city, abandoned by Europeans many years ago, was entirely covered with water, and 1,200 to 1,500 people drowned. The Island of Serang was completely inundated, and not a soul remains at Cherobin, where the loss of life and property is considerable. Buitenzorg suffered very seriously, as did Samarang, Jagakarta, Sourakarta, and Sourabaya, whose meagre reports from its lesser towns indicate their loss to be as great in proportion. The latest advices are that the eruptions continue. The violence has abated somewhat, but it is feared the disaster will be the most frightful ever known.

TOWNS ENTIRELY DESTROYED.

The towns of Anjer, Jiringino, and Telokabelong have been destroyed by volcanic eruption. All hithouses in the straits have disappeared; where the mountain of Kramatan formerly stood the sea now flows. The aspect of Sunda straits has much changed, and navigation is dangerous.

THE DISTURBANCE CEASED.

Since noon yesterday everything has been quiet. The sky is clear, and communication with Serang is restored. The temperature fell 10 degrees on Monday, but is now normal. The town is covered with a thin layer of ashes. It was so hot when falling that it killed the birds.

A ROARING COLUMN OF SEA.

Telegraph linemen report that while repairing the line near Anjer early on Monday they saw a high column of sea approaching with a roaring noise. They fled without learning the fate of the inhabitants. The quarries at Merak have disappeared, and all the people of the place perished. The floating dock at the island of Onrust, near Batavia, is adrift and badly damaged.

LONDON, August 30.

Later particulars of the volcanic eruption show that it was even more disastrous than at first reported. On Sunday at noon the disturbances were supposed to be at their height, but later in the day the violence increased, threatening destruction to the whole island. At midnight suddenly an enormous luminous cloud formed over the Kandang Mountains, skirting the south-east coast, gradually spreading until it formed a lurid red canopy. Meanwhile the eruption increased. Streams of lava poured down into the valleys, sweeping all before them. In the midst of the molten sea of lava was

A BED OF SOLID ICE

omitted from one of the craters which was carried along and landed at the north-east corner of the island, surrounded by a thick

envelope of sand and scoria, which are non-conductors of heat. It is supposed the ice formed the crust of some subterranean lake. At two o'clock on Monday morning the great cloud suddenly broke and vanished. At the same time frightful rumblings were heard. The columns of fire and smoke over the south-east corner of the island ceased to ascend, while the craters in other parts seemed to open.

THEIR FERRY THROATS

still wider. The hissing of the sea became deafening. Waves rushed up an unprecedented height. When daylight came an enormous tract of land had disappeared, 50 miles square. In this were the villages of Nego y and Negery Babawang. The natives scattered sparsely through the forests and on the plains escaped death. The loss of life must have aggregated 15,000. The entire Kandang range of mountains extending 65 miles had gone out of sight. The town of Kauerang within 25 miles of Batavia, was swept away by the lava stream, and half the population of 100 perished. At Speely wick

RED HOT ROCKS

set fire to the houses and swept away all the thickly settled portion of the town. Ten bazars belonging to Europeans were destroyed. No lives are known to be lost. The River Jacatara, on which Batavia is situated, was so damaged by lava and debris that its course was changed. Fingelin was almost totally destroyed and large number of lives lost. The Island of Ous, twenty-five miles east of Batavia, was inundated and the floating dock destroyed. Caataycelaps and Trommers Islands are out of sight. Baby and Cherib islands off the north coast lost the few houses and inhabitants upon them.

IN BATAVIA

the loss has largely increased since the former reports. The roof of the Governor's house was crushed in by mud and three retainers killed. The town bridge was destroyed. The Diamond and Pearl bastions were damaged, and the Barran redoubt destroyed. In Cayaman li, Malabar, and Lion streets the principal avenues, the damage was very great. Fort Anty g was entirely destroyed. The town of Faggal was severely shaken, and only a few buildings are left. The violent shock was felt on the island of Sumatra. On Monday Middah island, ten miles off the Japanese coast, was almost wholly engulfed by the sea. The small island of Singkel disappeared. It was uninhabited. The aggregate loss of life is fully 75,000.

LITERARY NOTICES.

HISTORICAL AND OTHER SKETCHES.

By James Anthony Froude. New York. Funk & Wagnalls, 10 and 12 Dey St.

Few men of the present day have caused more controversy, or been the object of more bitter vilification than the well known historian whose name stands as the author of the essays contained in the volume before us. It is chiefly as a historian that Mr. Froude is best known. His essays are less familiar to the general public than his historical works, and therefore the selection of his essays and sketches in the volume under review will, to a large number of readers, prove new, while at the same time undoubtedly interesting. The same clear, pithy, perspicuous style so characteristic of his histories, is to be found in his essays. He is one of the masters of the art of writing the English language; and to the student or beginner anxious to cultivate a style, no reading would be so useful as a careful study of these essays. The selections have been carefully made. The better known essays have been omitted, as have also those which have given rise to controversy. The essays here collected are eleven in number, and, with a well written and thoughtful introduction by D. H. Wheeler, form a most attractive volume. Funk & Wagnalls are doing a good work in issuing at such nominal rates such excellent reading as an antidote to the trashy stuff which is cast so abundantly over the land. Wm. Briggs, 78 and 80 King St. East, is General Agent for the Dominion for all their publications.

THE BAD BOY ABROAD. By W. T. Gray. New York: J. S. Ogilvie & Co., 31 Rose St.

The who have read the Bad Boy's Diary—and who has not?—will be glad to read the account of his doings while in Yurup. Change of air and scene does not effect a change of heart, and the bad boy is just as bad a boy abroad as he was at home. The work will be found laughable enough to while away an idle hour.

WITTY AND OTHERWISE.

A dead-leaf—The defunct tramp.
Strictly plain—The Western prairies.
At a stand still—The Fox-nut business.
The crew-ial test—An eight-oared boat race.
A Dry Spell—S-a-h-a-r-a. Spelling—The Dictionary.
You can't count votes honestly by electrick light.
Love laughs at locks—particularly if they are red.

A man with water on the brain should wear a plug hat.
Song of the Western Union—"Never mind the wire fare."

After a bill is settled you can enjoy the rest that follows payin'.

A poker party—The ragpicker. The dentist's motto—Too thin.

Soap was first mentioned by Pliny, which proves that it's an historical lye.

A young man biting his mustache is a case of "down in the mouth."

Always out of order—Twenty-two letters of the alphabet.

It must be a poor singer who can't make "boars" from the "timbre" of his voice.

When people are compelled to use snuff, they certainly are put to the pinch.

Watering the stock of a leather-making company is a new form of hide-draulics.

The young woman who eloped with an unknown man was reported as Mr. iously missing.

An exchange says that chickens can be bought in Florida for four cents a piece. It doesn't say how big the pieces are.

Mr. John L. Sullivan belongs to the Concord School of Philosophy. At any rate, there is peace and concord when he is around.

"Pa, rogues always fall out at night."
"At night? How do you know that?"
"Because, pa, when rogues fall out, honest men got their downs."

The difference between a bakery and a printing office lies in the fact that in the former the pie is formed, while in the latter occasionally the form is pied.

"I need have no more fears from that quarter," is what the storekeeper remarked as he threw the counterfeit twenty-five-cent piece in the fire, which had come back to him several times.

The young poet who is ambitious to rush into print should remember that, although his genius may be unquestioned, his verses will never have a good run without their feet are perfect.

Lake Moosehucmagunticjocknahmakantagus, in Maine, is pronounced a popular summer resort. And we should think that was the only way it could be pronounced. Another resort in that a is Mattoloonk-patpiscooskagibbowackog-hosseripgagwamunk, but very few persons resort to the task of spelling it.

Musio at home (the egotist of genius)—Eminent violinist: "Dell r.o—who is dat fiddle paid old chendle nan viz iz vito viskers and zo bine-r-z, looking at ez bigchurs?" Hostess: "It's my Uncle Robertson. I am grieved to say he is quite deaf!" Eminent violinist: "Ach, I am so sorry for him! He vil not pe aplo to hear me blay ze vittle!"

An old Vermont farmer rather took the census man aback the other day. The census man asked him if he was married. "No, I beant," was the reply. "Childless, then, I suppose," going to make the entry. "Wal, no—not exactly," replied the veteran. "I hev got forty-two on 'em." "Gracious!" exclaimed the intorlocutor, dropping his pencil. "I thought you said you wasn't married!" "Wall, I ain't," was the reply, "but Iuster be."

Much art: "What's that thing?" asked a dairyman, as a chromo-peddler held up a picture in which all the hues of the rainbow were displayed in reckless profusion, without regard to harmony or correctness. "A cow," replied the smiling art connoisseur, with a show of pride. "A cow?" gasped the milk-handler, "well, that's the first time I ever saw a green cow browsing on salmon-colored grass. Here, John!" he yelled to the hired man "bring me the gun!" but the chromo fiend climbed the fence and made a break for the woods.

"Strictly business." "Sir," began a

stranger, as he walked directly up to a business man on King street the other day. "I am strictly business." "So am I." "Good! I believe every man should furnish money for his own tombstone." "So do I." "Good, again! I went to raise \$50 to pay for a stone to stand at my grave. What assistance will you render the enterprise? I want a business answer." "You shall have it, sir; I will aid the enterprise by furnishing the corpse." The stranger hurried off without even mentioning the sort of epitaph he designed having engraved on the sacred stone.

SCIENCE.

The London Tramway Company has resolved to fit the Melarski air engines to all their cars, thus entirely superseding horse flesh by compressed air.

Beet root sugar is now admitted to be quite distinct from cane sugar. Its sweetening power is at least 30 per cent. lower, though its polarizing power is greater.

A Washington inventor has patented a telephonic transmitter through which, it is claimed, the voice can be audibly heard in a whisper at 750 miles distance.

Geological examination reveals in the delta of the Mississippi, along a space of 300 miles, 10 distinct forests of buried trees. Bald cypresses with a diameter of 25 feet have been found.

Bleaching agents are usually good disinfectants; that which can so disturb an organic compound as to destroy its color is capable of either arresting or completing the decompositions that produce vile odors and are produced by organic germs or ferments.

At the Physiological Society, Berlin, it was lately stated that instead of the condensed milk, which, owing to its large percentage of sugar, has not kept its place as a food for children, a preparation of milk has lately been imported and introduced into the market from Switzerland. This milk is protected against fermentation and decomposition by previous cooking.

A technical journal gives a simple receipt for preserving silver and plated articles from turning black as they invariably will if not kept constantly in use. The same plan could with advantage be applied, we should think, to any metal subject to change or rust from the action of the atmosphere. Plain collodion—that is, not photographic collodion—is diluted with twice its bulk of spirits of wine, and applied to the surface of the metal with a soft brush. The spirit soon evaporates, leaving an imperceptible and transparent skin, which can when required be removed with hot water.

Nickel, according to Professor Blakof of Now Haven, is much more widely distributed than is generally supposed, and its economical uses are likely to be greatly enlarged in the future, as its value for many purposes has come to be better known. It is now chiefly used in the manufacture of hollow ware, being readily spun and pressed, while its advantages of lightness, strength and infusibility are apparent. Professor Wharton, of Camden, N. J., has succeeded in making objects of cast nickel, such as door knobs, horse bits, &c. Vessels made of nickel Prof. Bako says, are presumably harmless, as the nickel is not easily attacked by vegetable acids. The experiment has also been tried of feeding a dog on nickel salts and the animal seemed to thrive on them.

The Prisoner's Pet.

The prisoners at the Blue Eagle have got a tame rat with which they amuse their idle hours. The little fellow is as playful as a kitten, runs from cell to cell, will eat out of the prisoners' hands, and perform a number of tricks at the word of command. It seems to have especially attached itself to a colored woman, who has been locked up for nearly a year awaiting trial for murder. It sleeps in the blankets with her every night, and if another rat enters her apartment will assault it with the most determined ferocity, and drive it out. It is passionately fond of music. One of the prisoners has a violin, and the moment he draws his bow across the strings the rat will run from whatever part of the jail it may be in directly to the fiddler's cell.—P'aducah News.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ireland, of Philadelphia, a beautiful granddaughter of Prescott the historian, with her aunt, M. a James Lawrence, of Boston, and the family of Colonel De Winton, of Lord Lorne's household, are among the people summing at Campo Bello, New Brunswick.